



ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH CANBERRA

6 April 2025
Fifth Sunday in Lent
(This week's service times within)

Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing, shall
come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.
Psalm 126.6



The Anointing at Bethany, Painted by Peter Paul Rubens (1577-1640) and Anthony Van Dyck (1599-1641), Painted in 1618, Oil on canvas © The State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg

***St John's exists to bear public witness to Jesus Christ,
the source of life.***

NOTICES



Parish AGM and Electoral Meeting. Thanks to those who attended last week's AGM. A full copy of our reports (now updated to include the Rector's Report), can be found at stjohnscanberra.org/documents (stjohnscanberra.org/documents).

Christine Hawkins and Russ Tunks were elected as Peoples' Wardens, and the following were elected as parish councillors: Simone Ilett, Edward Jackson, Wayne Leach, Jo Lloyd, Stephanie Rogerson and Natalie Willson. Rosemary Shepherd will continue as Parish Secretary.

Rev'd Dave announced that he would appoint John Richards as Rector's Warden, and Andrew de Lautour, Matthew Neuhaus and one other (to be determined) as parish councillors.

Farewell Kirsten. At the end of this term, Dr Kirsten Lamb finishes up as our youth worker (9.30 service). We give thanks to God for Kirsten's creative and engaging leadership of our youth, and her passion for seeing them grow in depth of faith. We wish her every blessing as she returns more fully to her classroom teaching career.

As we transition to new arrangements, we invite all members of the current youth group to join us in the Robertson Room after today's 9.30 service for a discussion on what this will mean for them.

Notice Anything? People entering the church may have noticed a difference in colour and appearance around the main entrance. This is due to poulticing work being conducted on the stonework, to deal with the issue of rising damp and subsequent stone damage. The work is funded by the St John's Heritage Council Appeal Fund, aided by a grant from the Heritage Trust.

Hymn Book Shortage. We have been running short of 'Together in Song' hymn books at our 9.30 service. If you have accidentally taken a copy home, could you please take advantage of the current amnesty period and return it to the porch?

Easter Letterbox Drop. Postcards advertising our Easter services are now ready for letterbox dropping in Campbell and Reid. Please pop into the office (Tuesday - Friday 10am - 3pm) to grab a map and bundle if you have time. We also have additional flyers for parishioners to do their local area, or provide to family/ friends.

Hope 25. With this week's newsletter you will find a bookmark, inviting you to identify people and initiatives to pray for as part of the Anglican Church's 'Hope 25' campaign (focussed between Easter and Pentecost). This campaign includes the following two events, for which we would particularly value your prayers.

Introduction to Christianity. Are you wanting to understand what Christianity is all about? The '3-2-1' course is a beginner-level introduction to Christian basics and will be held in the Robertson Room at 7.30pm on Thursday May 22, May 29 and June 5.

2025 Seminar Series: Finding Hope. This year's evening seminars commence with a talk on how to find hope in a difficult and frightening world. Thursday 8 May (7.30pm, Robertson Room). Like the '3-2-1' course (above), this will be of interest to people of faith, as well as curious inquirer.

Safe Ministry Training. St John's will be hosting a Safe Ministry training day in the Robertson Room on the 14 June. For other dates/locations and online options, see <https://safercommunities.net.au/anglican-diocese-of-canberra-goulburn-online-training/>
All training for St John's parishioners is booked and paid for by the Parish, so please contact alison.hosking@stjohnscanberra.org if you would like to book in for training or if you have any Safe Ministry questions.

Nostalgia in Writing. Jenny Garden is very keen to obtain a loan of a childhood autograph book for the Heritage Festival Exhibition in the Schoolhouse Museum. (Anyone who had, or has one, will know what Jenny means.) The book would be displayed in a locked case for the duration of the Exhibition, which will be open on 21 April, then probably for the rest of our 180th Anniversary year. Please contact Jenny if you have an autograph book that you would be willing to lend the Museum for the Exhibition, now being advertised on St John's noticeboards. Thanks in anticipation. Please contact Jenny Garden on 0414 551 821.

Name Badges. You can order your own St John's nametag for \$17.00 (resin with magnetic back) or \$15.00 (pin back). It's a great way to help people connect with you at church. Order at stjohnscanberra.org/payments.

Meals for the William Family. Meals would be appreciated for the William family as Richa continues to face further complex surgery (and recovery). Frozen meals can be left in the church freezer, clearly labelled 'Williams'. Non-spicy chicken, fish or vegetarian meals only, please. Thanks for your prayers and care for this family.

Meet your candidate. In the lead-up to the Federal election, churches across Australia are hosting "meet the candidate" events for churches in their electorate. These forums are respectful, non-partisan opportunities for politicians to hear the concerns of the Christian community and give specific and direct responses. They are also an opportunity for Christian voters to hear directly from their candidates on a variety of issues, so that they can make a wise choice. You can find a full list of the forums, and search for your closest one at: <https://meetyourcandidates.org.au>

1 Way FM 'Lightning Strike' Appeal. Supporter of St John's, 1 Way FM, has shared the following message: "On January 13, a lightning strike hit Telstra Tower, damaging our transmitter and reducing our broadcast power. Thanks to swift action from our team and local technicians, we restored operations—but to continue sharing hope and encouragement across Canberra, we need to upgrade our equipment. Your donation will directly support these essential upgrades, ensuring that 1WAY FM remains strong and reliable for our community. We need to raise \$47,285."

To donate, go to: <https://www.1wayfm.com.au/donate/>

In Pursuit of Paul. Come with Professor Constantine Campbell (St John's parishioner) and follow in the Apostle Paul's footsteps as we travel to major sites on Paul's journeys in Türkiye, Greece, Malta, and Rome. From the site of Paul's first recorded sermon in Psidian Antioch, to the Ephesian theatre where he sparked a city riot, to the spot where Lydia was baptised, to where Paul preached to the Athenians, to where he pleaded with the Corinthians. We'll visit the site of Paul's infamous shipwreck where he is still honoured, his Roman prison and his burial place. Along the way we'll gain deeper insights into Paul the man and missionary, as well as a greater appreciation of the backdrop for his letters that have shaped the church (and the world) for two millennia. November 6–19, 2025. Information session: April 7, 2025, via Zoom.

For further info: https://selah.au/trip/pursuit_paul/

UPCOMING EVENTS (*St John's event)

Sunday 6 April: Daylight Saving Time Ends. Please remember that your clocks go backwards one hour at around 3.00am on Sunday 6 April. Sunrise and sunset will be about 1 hour earlier from then on. Early risers will enjoy more light in the morning!

***Sunday 6 April: Bell Ringing.** Join us for our monthly open tower between 5-6pm as we prepare to ring in Easter during St John's 180th year. You are welcome to have a go on the ropes or just listen in. Bring along some friends and family!

Tuesday 8 April: Order of St Luke Healing Meeting. All are invited to the Healing Meeting at St David's Anglican Church Red Hill at 2.00pm followed by afternoon tea. The meeting will focus on teaching and/or prayer. Sessions are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Info Fr John Gibson at gibsonjohn385@gmail.com or 0451 681 118.

Sunday 13 April: Palm Sunday Rally. Bishop Mark Short, Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn, will be speaking at the Canberra Palm Sunday rally. Bishop Mark says: "Join with me and other representatives of faith and community groups on Palm Sunday as we say yes to refugees and to the vital contribution that they make to building a hope-filled Australia". Show your support, be at the Canberra Palm Sunday rally, 1pm, 13 April, Civic Square.

Sunday 13 April: Invictus – A Passion. The Llewellyn Choir Performs *Invictus: A Passion*, on Palm Sunday at 5.00pm at the Wesley Uniting Church, National Circuit Forrest. Book through www.llewellynchoir.org.au

***Sunday 20 April: Easter Sunday Kids Program – 9:30am.** We will be running a program of games, teaching and craft during the 9:30am service on Easter Day. All kids aged 4 years to 12(ish) are welcome. Come straight to the Hall from 9:20am! Younger ones are welcome too but will need to be accompanied by a parent. The cry-room livestream will also be available in the Robertson Room.

***Thursday 8 May: Finding Hope.** The first of the 2025 evening seminars. See under 'Parish Notices' for more info. 7.30pm, in the Robertson Room.

***Thursdays 22 May, 29 May and 5 June: '3-2-1' - Introduction to Christianity.** A three-week evening course designed to help people understand what Christian faith is all about. Like the 'Finding Hope' seminar (above), this will be of interest to people of faith, as well as curious inquirers. This will be held in the Robertson Room at 7.30pm.

Saturday 21 June: Save the date. Equip Women Conference is celebrating 25 years, and we would love to see St John's gather 25 women this year. The topic is Revelation 6-22. The cost is \$20 pp. It will be held in the Robertson Room or Hall (depending on numbers). Please contact Mary de Lautour for information (see page 9).

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE 19 MARCH 2025

Rector's Report: The Rector reported that the chaplain for St John's Care has started which has been a positive move. A new marriage preparation course is being rolled out this year. This will be primarily for wedding couples, but could also include people at any stage of their relationship. After Easter, Reverend Dr Andrew Cameron and a parishioner will be running a basic course on Christianity. A full seminar series, which will be open to the general public, will start after this. The attendance figures in January were up on last year while attendance figures in February were slightly down on last year.

Finance Update: The treasurer reported that the offertory income has been well above budget and parking has been above budget, year to date. There is a small waitlist for parking now. There have been two large recent expenses. One for Sydney Stonemasons working on the Church and fixing a major plumbing problem at one of the Parish's houses in Amaroo Street.

Property and Grounds Update: The Sydney Stonemasons will finish their initial work on the Church by the end of the month. The site redevelopment planning now has some real impetus. The Rector and Chair of the Property Committee gave a presentation at the Friends of St John's Service on Sunday 16 March about the site redevelopment proposal. A meeting was held recently with representatives from St Paul's Manuka (which is going through a site revitalisation) about the proposed redevelopment which proved to be very helpful.

Community Outreach: A Gunfire breakfast will be held on ANZAC Day if there are enough volunteers for the event.

The University of NSW gave a presentation on the current status of the new campus developments adjacent to the St John's precinct over the next 15 years. These developments will see new buildings operational from 2028, leading to an eventual capacity of 6,000 students (including student residential accommodation). There should be minimal direct impact on our site during the construction phase. A consultation process is underway and accessible online.

For any questions please contact the Presiding Member John Richards on gjrich@bigpond.net.au

Dignified Care

My first five weeks with St John's Care have absolutely flown by. I am enjoying the gift and privilege of getting to know new people and provide sensitive support for courageous, resilient community members. Being here already feels like home. Like many long-standing volunteers and staff, before long I trust I'll also feel like part of the furniture, in the best possible sense of course.

One story that stands out for me during this time is about C and her four children. Due to experiencing domestic violence, C moved out of the family home with her children a few years ago and now lives in NSW due to a housing shortage in Canberra. However, C's youngest daughter A remains in shared custody arrangements that require C to travel in and out of Canberra regularly for A to attend school. With the cost of living increasing, pressure has resulted for C who is struggling to keep up with the bills and provide gifts for her children on special occasions like birthdays. Also, C's ex-spouse continues to engage in psychologically harmful communication that traumatises C and makes it more difficult for her to seek and retain work.

I first met C a few weeks ago when she came in seeking support for A to attend a school camp. C did not have the necessary items for camping. St John's Care was able to provide not only food to help feed the family, but also the required items for camp. C shared that while she had gone to other charities to receive support, she kept coming back to St John's Care because she felt dignified, heard and understood here.

Two weeks afterwards, C came back to St John's Care needing more food to help tide the family over until the next government pay period. To help C get through this challenging period, I encouraged her to come in more regularly in the short-term for extra food until her outstanding one-off bills are paid. Doing this will also allow us to provide time and space for cups of tea that C appreciates, with sounding board wisdom to pro-actively work through bigger picture family needs for support.

Thank you for the kind and generous donations we have received to help those like C and her family.

Tecia Thompson, Community Chaplain

Day off: Wednesday

Items Required: Adult toothpaste, Tissues, Shampoo and Conditioner, Lactose free milk, powdered milk: **Easter:** Easter eggs, Chocolate

Upcoming services

Sunday 6 April 2025

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Readings: Isaiah 43.16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3.3-14; John 12.1-8

- 8.00am:** **Sung Eucharist**
- 9.30am:** **Family Eucharist** (Kids Church & Youth Group)
- 11.15am:** **Choral Eucharist** (1662 Book of Common Prayer)
- 6.00pm:** **stjohns@6** (Praise, Prayer & Proclamation)

Wednesday 9 April 2025

Readings: Philippians 3.3-14; John 12.1-8

- 10am:** **Eucharist** (1662 Book of Common Prayer)

Sunday 13 April 2025

Sunday of the Passion - Palm Sunday

Readings: Isaiah 50.4-9a; Psalm 31.9-18; Philippians 2.5-11; Luke 23.1-49

- 7.00am:** **Eucharist** (1662 Book of Common Prayer)
- 8.00am:** **Sung Eucharist**
- 9.30am:** **Family Eucharist** (Kids Church & Youth Group in Recess)
- 5.00pm:** **Choral Evensong** (1662 Book of Common Prayer)
- 6.00pm:** **stjohns@6** (Praise, Prayer & Proclamation)

Wednesday 16 April 2025

Readings: TBA

- 10am:** **Eucharist** (1662 Book of Common Prayer)

For more information: www.stjohnscanberra.org

SUPPORTING THE MINISTRY OF THE PARISH

The best way to support our ministry is to (annually) prayerfully consider an appropriate amount, and then set up automatic regular transfers using our 'giving' account:

BSB:702 389 **ACCOUNT:** 0520 9450 **NAME:** St John the Baptist Reid

See also: <https://www.stjohnscanberra.org/giving>

Contacts

Rector	Rev'd David McLennan	rector@stjohnscanberra.org	0468 634 351
Senior Associate Priest	Rev'd Dr Andrew Cameron	andrew.cameron@stjohnscanberra.org	0477 689 421
Honorary Priest	Rev'd Vicky Cullen		0476 777 203
Youth Leader	Kirsten Lamb	kirsten.lamb@stjohnscanberra.org	
Children & Families Worker	Mary de Lautour	mary.delautour@stjohnscanberra.org	
Sacristan	Jennifer Lawson	jennifer.lawson@stjohnscanberra.org	0407 286 572
Schoolhouse Museum	Jennifer Garden		0414 551 821
Office Administrator	Jane Rose	admin@stjohnscanberra.org	6248 8399
Operations Manager	Alison Hosking	alison.hosking@stjohnscanberra.org	6248 8399
Friends of St John's, Chair	Matthew Neuhaus	friendsofstjohnscanberra@gmail.com	



SJC Emergency Relief Centre 6248 7771

SJC Executive Officer	Jason Haines	executive.officer@stjohnscare.org.au	6248 7771
SJC Operations Manager	Robbie Speldewinde	programs@stjohnscare.org.au	6248 7771

Parish Office: 6248 8399

Opening Hours: 10.00am to 3.00pm Tuesday to Friday

www.stjohnscanberra.org

45 Constitution Avenue, Reid 2612 GPO Box 219, Canberra 2601

FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

Giving Him Your Best Decoder

Giving Him Your Best

Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. John 12:3a (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



H	W	I	K	A	D	N	P	O	Q	Y	F	X	M	C	V	T	U	S	G	B	R	L	E	J	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 8-24-22-12-18-14-24 _____
- 8-9-18-22-24-6 _____
- 12-24-24-17 _____
- 2-3-8-24-6 _____
- 1-5-3-22 _____
- 12-22-5-20-22-5-7-15-24 _____
- 12-3-23-23-24-6 _____
- 1-9-18-19-24 _____

FEET
HAIR

FRAGRANCE
PERFUME

FILLED
POURED

HOUSE
WIPED